

# East African Bird Report 1990

**T**HE FORMAT OF THIS REPORT follows that established in the 1987–89 ones, i.e. a general review for Kenya, together with the systematic lists and migrant dates, followed by similar records from colleagues in Tanzania and Uganda. With interest in Uganda forest birds gaining momentum, we are pleased to see an increase in Uganda records this year, a trend we hope will continue.

The revision of *Birds of East Africa* (Britton 1980) got under way during the year, though the List Committee charged with undertaking this project is very much aware of the work involved, and now feels that it will take longer than the two years anticipated earlier.

New or resurrected features in this report include a list of those undertaking ornithological projects in East Africa, and a list of literature references on East African birds—other than those appearing in *Scopus*—during the period 1977–1990. Both these features will be up-dated in future annual reports.

## Kenya—general review and highlights

The New Year was generally dry over much of the country heralding what appeared to be the start of a long hot dry season. However, exceptionally heavy rains from mid February to mid April led to catastrophic flooding over much of western Kenya for several months. The period 25 April to early May was, thankfully, generally dry over much of the country and, apart from heavy rain on 9 and 22 May, the period generally known as the 'long rains' did not materialize, and allowed many parts of the country to recover from the earlier devastation.

There were several birding highlights during the year, notably the first records of White-chinned Petrel *Procellaria aequinoctialis* as well as several sightings of Shy Albatross *Diomedea cauta* off Shimoni during August and September, while from various border areas there were the first records of Brown-headed Apalis *Apalis alticola*, Red-pate Cisticola *Cisticola ruficeps*, Locust Finch *Ortygospiza locustella*, Black-bellied Seed-cracker *Pyrenestes ostrinus* and the distinctive, all-red form of the Red-headed Weaver *Anaplectes rubriceps jubaensis*, originally described as the Crimson Weaver *Ploceus jubaensis*. In addition, the second Kenya record of Superb Sunbird *Nectarinia superba* and the third record of Shining Blue Kingfisher *Alcedo quadribrachys* were reported from the west. The first breeding records of Gambaga Flycatcher *Muscicapa gambagae* were reported from the Kerio Valley during late March and April, while an all black juvenile *Sarothrura* pygmy crane appeared inside The Ark on a wet misty July night and, after several months in the care of a Nairobi veterinary surgeon it moulted into a superb male Streaky-breasted Pygmy Crane *S. boehmi*! Do we perhaps have a breeding population in the Aberdares?

The Ngulia Ringing Group reported its best year ever during the November and December southward migration with over 17 000 migrants ringed overall, a staggering 2432 of them on 24 November. Full details appear on pp. 159–164.

Finally, on a rather sad note, we have to report that the numbers of Grey Parrots

*Psittacus erithacus* in Kenya are probably down to single figures in the Kakamega-Kaimosi area, and the numbers of Great Crested Grebes *Podiceps cristatus* and African Darters *Anhinga rufa* continue to decline in the highlands and Rift Valley lakes.

### Tanzania and Uganda

News from Tanzania during the year included records of several of the Pemba endemics which appear to be doing well, while in the south we had reports of the first East African specimens of Chirping Cisticola *Cisticola pipiens*. From northern Tanzania came news of the second Eurasian Hoopoe *Upupa e. epops* for the country and only the fourth Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii*. From the southwest we learned that the House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* now appears to be well established in Sumbawanga and Mbeya, extending its range north from Zambia.

On the brighter side, records from the eastern forest reserves indicate that many of the otherwise little known forest species appear to be in good shape, and we sincerely hope that the conservation of these vital forest reserves remains a high priority of the Tanzanian authorities.

Interest in saving the forests of southern and western Uganda also appears to be increasing as several conservation groups look to these areas as possible potential tourist destinations. A visiting group of birders spent some time in the Bwamba lowlands during February and March and produced several records of those species that just reach East Africa from the adjacent forest belt that stretches from Gabon to the Semliki River. Highlights of their visit were the first East African records of the Spot-breasted Ibis *Bostrychia rara*, Hartlaub's Duck *Pteronetta hartlaubii*, White-throated Blue Swallow *Hirundo nigrita* and the Ituri Batis *Batis ituriensis*, as well as numerous records of birds not recorded for several decades.

The Sub-committee is very conscious of the lateness of this report. The main reason for this is, quite simply, that most observers are very slow to submit their yearly records. The sub-committee has resolved to publish the next annual report within the following calendar year. Please co-operate by sending in your records as soon in the new year as possible.

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### Species report

Records collated by D. A. Turner

Abbreviations used after species' names:

S(A): Scarce species, five or fewer East African records

S(B): Scarce species, six to 25 East African records

R: Requested species: species of special interest whose status requires clarification

E: Records showing an Extension of Range

N: Records included for their Numerical interest

D: Records of migrants whose Dates are of interest

M: Records of Miscellaneous interest.

## Kenya: Afrotropical and oceanic species

### PODICIPEDIDAE GREBES

***Podiceps cristatus* Great Crested Grebe** N: numbers remained very low: max count of 29 at Lake Nakuru 15 Jul, and only 2 reported from Lake Naivasha 28 Jan, and only 1 in Oct (several observers).

***Podiceps nigricollis* Black-necked Grebe** N: max count at Lake Elmenteita >2000 Aug–Nov (MACC).

***Tachybaptus ruficollis* Little Grebe** N: max count at Lake Nakuru NP >7000 28 Oct (RW). M: 1 flying around Ngulia Lodge 04:00 hrs 28 Nov (DJP).

### DIOMEDEIDAE ALBATROSSES

***Diomedea cauta* Shy Albatross** S(A): 10 sightings off Shimoni 2–25 Sep with a max of 3 birds on 18 Sep (photos obtained, PH, DAT).

### PROCELLARIIDAE PETRELS, SHEARWATERS

***Pachyptila desolata* Antarctic Prion** S(A): 1 off Shimoni 27 Sep (photos obtained, PH, DAT). Formerly considered a race of *P. vittata*.

***Procellaria aequinoctialis* White-chinned Petrel**: 1 off Shimoni 9 Aug and 15 Sep (photos obtained, PH).

*First record for Kenya and East Africa.*

***Puffinus lherminieri* Audubon's Shearwater** S(B): singles off Shimoni 13 Aug (PH), 1–5 daily off Kilifi 24 Dec 1990–6 Jan 1991 (TS).

### OCEANITIDAE STORM-PETRELS

***Oceanites oceanicus* Wilson's Storm Petrel** S(B): 1 off Kiunga 24 Sep (DAT).

### PHAETHONTIDAE TROPICBIRDS

***Phaethon lepturus* White-tailed Tropicbird** S(B): 1 off Shimoni 30 Aug (PH), 1 off Kiwayu 8 Oct (CH).

[***Phaethon rubricauda* Red-tailed Tropicbird** S(A): 1 reported c. 25 miles (40 km) off Watamu 26 Sep (PG) but no details available.]

### PELECANIDAE PELICANS

***Pelecanus onocrotalus* White Pelican** N: max >60 000 Lake Nakuru NP 27 Apr dropping to >22 000 by late Oct (RW). B: up to 5000 pairs continued to breed at Lake Elmenteita throughout the year (MACC).

***Pelecanus rufescens* Pink-backed Pelican** N: 50–100 throughout the year at Lake Nakuru NP with max of 128 on 27 Apr (RW).

### SULIDAE BOOBIES

***Sula dactylatra* Masked Booby** R: singles off Shimoni 24 Sep and 30 Dec (PH), 1 off Kilifi 26 Dec (TS).

### PHACROCORACIDAE CORMORANTS

***Phalacrocorax carbo* Great Cormorant** N: max of >3000 Lake Nakuru NP 28 Oct (RW).

### ANHINGIDAE DARTERS

***Anhinga rufa* African Darter** N: singles at Tana bridge 11 Sep and Saiwa NP 18 Oct were the only records reported. The population in the Kenya highlands is now disturbingly low.

## ARDEIDAE HERONS, BITTERNS

***Ixobrychus minutus payesii* Little Bittern R:** present throughout the year (including immatures) Ibonia estate, Kiambu (JRPC). Pair Lake Naivasha late Jan and 17–18 Feb (DAT, SJT). Other records from Lake Jipe (Feb), Lake Baringo (Mar and Nov), Lake Naivasha and Mara GR (Aug) (DAT, ML).

***Ixobrychus sturmii* Dwarf Bittern R:** singles Lake Naivasha 16–17 Feb and 2–5 Mar (SJT), 1 Mito Andei 23 Mar (DJP), 1 Talek River, Mara GR 30 Sep (JRPC), and one caught and ringed at night, Ngulia 24 Nov (GCB, DJP).

***Ardea cinerea* Grey Heron N:** max of 178 at Lake Nakuru NP 28 Oct (RW).

***Ardea goliath* Goliath Heron B:** 6 active nests during the year along the Mara River, Mara GR (ML).

***Ardeola idae* Madagascar Squacco Heron R:** singles from May–Oct: Bamburi, Shimba Hills NP, Nairobi NP, Limuru Pond, Kiambu, Baringo, Embu, and Suguta Marmar. Extreme dates: 19 May–24 Oct.

***Ardeola rufiventris* Rufous-bellied Heron R:** present throughout the year in Mara GR. Max 8 in late Aug (several observers).

***Egretta ardesiaca* Black Heron R:** recorded from Lake Naivasha (Jan), Lake Baringo (Feb), Buffalo Springs GR (Feb), Limuru (Aug), Lake Nakuru and Amboseli NPs (Nov). NB: >300 Garsen late Apr with at least 20 pairs breeding (MC).

***Egretta gularis* African Reef Heron R:** 1 Lake Nakuru NP 13 Nov (DEW).

***Nycticorax nycticorax* Black-crowned Night Heron N:** >60 Mara GR Jun–Jul (ML), 132 Lake Nakuru NP 28 Oct (RW).

## CICONIIDAE STORKS

***Anastomus lamelligerus* Open-billed Stork ND:** >200 Loiengalani, Lake Turkana 12 Oct, >400 Aruba, Tsavo East NP 17 Dec (DJP, DAT).

***Ciconia episcopus* Woolly-necked Stork MB:** recorded from Lake Elmenteita (Jan), Lake Nakuru NP (Apr), near Lokichoggio (Aug), Suguta Marmar (Aug), Lake Bogoria (Oct), Ngulia (Nov, Dec), and Mara GR (all year, including 2 pairs nesting) (many observers).

***Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis* Saddle-billed Stork E:** 1 Ramisi, south coast, 5 Mar (MH).

***Mycteria ibis* Yellow-billed Stork N:** >400 at Lake Nakuru NP throughout the year with a peak of 838 on 15 Jul (RW).

***Bostrychia olivacea* Green Ibis R:** recorded from the Met Station on Mt Kenya (Feb), and Kieni Forest, Aberdares where 5 or 6 seen on 22 Jun (DAT, DF, RB).

***Plegadis falcinellus* Glossy Ibis N:** >20 Lake Nakuru NP Apr–Aug, rising to >150 by 28 Oct (RW), >40 Lake Jipe 7 Feb (DAT).

***Platalea alba* African Spoonbill N:** >100 Lake Nakuru NP Apr–Aug rising to >350 by 28 Oct (RW).

## PHOENICOPTERIDAE FLAMINGOES

***Phoeniconaias minor* Lesser Flamingo M:** >500 Sabaki River mouth 26 Oct (ND).

## ANATIDAE DUCKS, GEESE

***Dendrocygna bicolor* Fulvous Whistling Duck N:** >300 Tana Bridge, Jan–Mar (DAT), >150 near Murang'a early Feb (ND), >60 Lake Naivasha 17 Aug (DEW).



*Anas capensis* Cape Wigeon N: 20–40 Lake Nakuru NP during the year with a max of 48 on 28 Oct (RW).

*Anas hottentota* Hottentot Teal N: >40 Lake Nakuru NP 22 Jan with numbers dropping to 10–12 during Apr–Oct (RW).

*Anas undulata* Yellow-billed Duck N: >100 Lake Naivasha 13–14 Oct (several observers).

*Plectropterus gambensis* Spur-winged Goose E: 6 near Lokichoggio 11 Aug (DAT, MACC).

*Sarkidiornis melanotos* Knob-billed Duck N: >200 Tana Bridge 9 Mar (DAT).

*Thalassornis leuconotus* White-backed Duck N: >150 Lake Naivasha early Feb dropping to 40 in mid Oct (several observers). E: 1 along the Mara River, NW Mara GR 20 Nov (DEW).

#### ACCIPITRIDAE BIRDS OF PREY

*Gypohierax angolensis* Palm-nut Vulture ME: singles again reported from Buffalo Springs GR 13 Feb, Samburu GR 2–3 Aug; 1 in NW Mara GR 27 Oct was new for western Kenya (BWF, ML, DEW).

*Torgos tracheliotus* Lappet-faced Vulture N: a count of over 75 in the Mara GR 14 Aug included 24 in one group (DEW).

*Circus ranivorus* African Marsh Harrier M: only records reported were 2 near Kapsabet 24 Jan and 1 at Lake Naivasha 17 Aug (DF, DAT, DEW).

*Circus fasciolatus* Southern Banded Snake Eagle R: 1 Shimba Hills NP 27 Nov (DEW).

*Accipiter minullus* Little Sparrowhawk R: recorded from Nairobi (Jan, Mar), Nakuru (Jan), Mara GR (Jan), Hunter's Lodge (Jul, Dec), Timau (Aug), Samburu, Wamba, Hell's Gate NP and Shimba Hills NP (all Nov) (several observers).

*Accipiter ovampensis* Ovampo Sparrowhawk R: several records of singles throughout the year in the NW Mara GR (BWF, DAT); 1 freshly killed on road between Namanga and Bissel 30 Jul (DJP); 1 Naro Moru 10 Nov and 6 Dec (DJP, TS).

*Accipiter rufiventris* Rufous-breasted Sparrowhawk M: 1 Limuru 15 Jul (TS).

*Butastur rufipennis* Grasshopper Buzzard M: last recorded 28 Feb at Ololokwe; first recorded 9 Nov at Wamba (several observers).

*Aviceda cuculoides* Cuckoo Hawk R: singles Mara GR 31 May–23 Jun and 3 on 6 Jul (ML); pair near Thika 22 Jun (DF, DAT); singles Arabuko-Sokoke Forest 16 Jul–24 Aug (JHF).

*Chelictinia riocourii* Swallow-tailed Kite R: max count in the Kedong Valley 22 on 17 Aug (JH); 20–25 over Lotikipi plains near Lokichoggio 11–12 Aug (MACC, DAT); 2 Buffalo Springs GR 23 Nov (BWF).

*Macheiramphus alcinus* Bat Hawk R: recorded from Naivasha (Aug), Buffalo Springs GR (Aug), Diani Forest and Shimba Hills NP (Aug), and Arabuko-Sokoke Forest (Sep) (several observers).

#### FALCONIDAE FALCONS

*Falco alopex* Fox Kestrel R: 1 Huri Hills 4 Aug (GC *et al.*); several around the Mogila Hills near Lokichoggio 11–14 Aug (MACC, DAT); 3 near Loiengalani 12 Oct (ND).

**Falco chicquera** Red-necked Falcon M: singles from Buffalo Springs GR 11 Jul, Loiengalani 11 Oct and near the Kalacha waterhole (Marsabit district) 11–13 Aug (several observers).

**Falco cuvieri** African Hobby R: recorded from Lake Baringo (Jul), Kakamega town (Aug, Nov), and near Kisumu (Aug) (NJR, DEW).

**Falco peregrinus** Peregrine Falcon DM: 1 Kilifi 19 Aug (DEW).

**Falco rupicoloides** White-eyed Kestrel M: several Leroghi plateau near Maralal 3 Aug, the Lotikipi plains near Lokichoggio 11–12 Aug, and in the Huri Hills 6–9 Aug were probably of the northern race *fieldi* (several observers).

**Falco tinnunculus** Common Kestrel MD: 5 on the Leroghi plateau near Maralal 3 Aug (DEW).

#### PHASIANIDAE QUAILS, FRANCOLINS

**Francolinus coqui** Coqui Francolin M: 2 near Usengi, Lake Victoria 13 Sep (DAT).

**Francolinus hildebrandti** Hildebrandt's Francolin M: recorded from Maralal district 5 Feb and 13 Oct (ND).

#### NUMIDIDAE GUINEAFOWLS

**Guttera edouardi** Crested Guineafowl E: 4–5 near Flourspar mine in the Kerio Valley at 1550 m 9 Feb and 3 Mar (NW).

#### TURNICIDAE BUTTON QUAILS, QUAIL PLOVER

**Ortyxelos meiffreni** Quail Plover R: one collected W of Kitani Lodge, Tsavo West NP 28 Jan was in full breeding condition (RG). Singles around Aruba, Tsavo East NP in Feb and Dec (DF, DAT).

**Turnix sylvatica** Button Quail M: 1 Samburu GR 9 Nov (DEW), 2 Tsavo East NP 17 Dec (DAT).

#### RALLIDAE RAILS, CRAKES

**Gallinula angulata** Lesser Moorhen M: singles Mara GR 18 Jun and 14 Aug; 2 Lake Naivasha 23 Nov (ML, DEW).

**Porphyrio alleni** Allen's Gallinule R: a few in the Thika area Jul–Oct (TS) were the only records away from the normal Rift Valley sites.

**Porphyrio porphyrio** Purple Gallinule E: 1 Musiara swamp, Mara GR 25 Aug (ML).

**Rallus caerulescens** African Water Rail MB: an adult and a juvenile at The Ark (Aberdare NP) 30 Jul (DEW).

**Sarothrura boehmi** Streaky-breasted Pygmy Crake S(B): adult male Mungatsi (Mumias district) 27 May (TS, JHF). An all-black juvenile pygmy crake that flew into The Ark during the night of 14 Jul was kept in captivity and later moulted into a male *S. boehmi* (IH, DAT).

**Sarothrura elegans** Buff-spotted Pygmy Crake R: singles from Kakamega Forest 19 Aug and 21 Sep (BWF, TS).

**Sarothrura rufa** Red-chested Pygmy Crake R: several calling Saiwa Swamp NP and Kerenget Dam near Kapenguria Apr, May and Jul (JHF, TS, DAT).

**Fulica cristata** Red-knobbed Coot N: max at Lake Naivasha >16 000 13–14 Oct (KWWG).

## HELIORNITHIDAE FINFOOTS

*Podica senegalensis* African Finfoot R: female at Naro Moru 10 Mar (RB); 1 on river between Kilgoris and Lolgorien 12 Aug (DEW).

## OTIDIDAE BUSTARDS

*Eupodotis senegalensis* White-bellied Bustard E: recorded from the Huri Hills and around Lokichoggio during Aug (MACC, DAT, GC *et al.*).

*Neotis denhami* Denham's Bustard M: nominate race: 2 Lotokipi plains near Lokichoggio 13–14 Aug (MACC, DAT).

*Neotis heuglini* Heuglin's Bustard M: male at Sala gate Tsavo East NP 6 Sep (JHF) was the most southerly record of this species for several years.

## JACANIDAE JACANAS

*Microparra capensis* Lesser Jacana R: 1 Kerenget Dam near Kapenguria 23 Apr was the most northerly record to date (DAT).

## ROSTRATULIDAE PAINTED SNIPES

*Rostratula benghalensis* Painted Snipe R: recorded from Mara GR (Jun, Aug, Dec), Lake Naivasha (Feb, Aug), Mogotio (Mar, Nov), and Lake Baringo (Jan, Feb, Jul, Sep). N: >20 at Buffalo Springs GR 12 Oct (several observers).

## CHARADRIIDAE PLOVERS

*Charadrius pallidus* Chestnut-banded Sandplover E: several Amboseli NP late Nov (RB, SR) and 1 Lake Elmenteita 8–9 Dec (MACC, DJP *et al.*).

*Vanellus armatus* Blacksmith Plover N: max count at Lake Nakuru NP was 537 on 28 Oct (RW, KWWG).

*Vanellus lugubris* Senegal Plover M: 2 NW Mara GR 25 May (DAT).

*Vanellus senegallus* Wattled Plover E: 2 near Naivasha 22 Oct (ND).

## RECURVIROSTRIDAE STILTS, AVOCETTS

*Himantopus himantopus* Black-winged Stilt N: max count at Lake Nakuru NP was 1975 on 28 Oct (RW, KWWG).

*Recurvirostra avosetta* Avocet N: max count at Lake Nakuru NP was 904 on 28 Oct (RW, KWWG).

## BURHINIDAE THICKNEES

*Burhinus senegalensis* Senegal Thicknee R: 32 at mouth of the Molo River, Lake Baringo 17 Feb (BWF).

## GLAREOLIDAE COURSERS, PRATINCOLES

*Cursorius cursor* Cream-coloured Courser E: several around Lokichoggio 11–12 Aug (MACC, DAT).

*Rhinoptilus chalcopterus* Violet-tipped Courser R: 1 Lake Jipe 6 Feb (DF, DAT), 1 Kitani, Tsavo West NP late May (RG), 1 Shombole 10 Jun (RB), 4 near Voi, Tsavo East NP 9 Jun (JHF).

## LARIDAE GULLS, TERNS

*Larus cirrocephalus* Grey-headed Gull B: many bred Lake Elmenteita Mar–Jul (MACC). N: max count at Lake Nakuru NP was 6525 on 28 Oct but only c. 100 at Lake Naivasha 13–14 Oct (RW, KWWG).

*Sterna anaethetus* Bridled Tern RB: c. 20 pairs bred Whale Is, Watamu during Jul–Aug (JHF).

***Sterna dougallii* Roseate Tern B:** c. 1500 pairs bred Whale Is, Watamu during Jul–Aug (JHF).

**RYNCHOPIDAE SKIMMERS**

***Rynchops flavirostris* African Skimmer R:** 1 at Lake Baringo 17 Feb and 5 there Aug–Dec, 1 Aruba Dam, Tsavo East NP 6 Sep (several observers).

**PTEROCOLIDAE SANDGROUSE**

***Pterocles quadricinctus* Four-banded Sandgrouse R:** >75 Lokichoggio area 12–14 Aug, >50 Nasolot GR (Turkwell River) 21 Sep (MACC, DAT).

**COLUMBIDAE PIGEONS**

***Columba delegorguei* Bronze-nape Pigeon M:** a female Arabuko-Sokoke Forest 19 Aug (DEW).

*First coastal record for many years.*

**PSITTACIDAE PARROTS**

***Psittacus erithacus* Grey Parrot M:** 2 birds seen on occasions during the year in Kakamega Forest may possibly be the last remaining wild ones in Kenya (DAT).

**MUSOPHAGIDAE TURACOS**

***Corythaixoides personata* Bare-faced Go-away-bird E:** 2 near Usengi (Lake Victoria) 13 Sep (DAT).

***Tauraco porphyreolophus* Violet-crested Turaco M:** a few birds present throughout the year on the Mua and Ulu Hills (several observers).

**CUCULIDAE CUCKOOS**

***Clamator levaillantii* Levaillant's Cuckoo R:** 1 Ngong road forest, Nairobi 26 May (RB), 1 Kisumu 11 Aug (DEW).

***Cuculus gularis* African Cuckoo R:** singles Lake Baringo 17 Feb and 5 Aug, 2 Lake Elmenteita 14 Jul–21 Aug (BWF, DEW, MACC).

***Ceuthmochares aereus* Yellowbill E:** 1 Samburu GR 29 Jun (TS), 1 Ibonia estate, Kiambu 21 and 27 Oct (JRPC) were both presumed to have been *australis*.

***Centropus grillii* Black Coucal R:** records from NW Mara GR (Mar–Jul), Lambwe Valley GR 3 Jun, and Lake Baringo (Jul, Sep) (several observers).

**TYTONIDAE BARN OWLS**

***Tyto alba* Barn Owl EB:** pair and nest in cave with 7 newly-hatched young in the Huri Hills 9 Aug (GC *et al.*). M: 1 caught at night at Ngulia 22 Dec (GCB *et al.*).

***Tyto capensis* Cape Grass Owl R:** 1 seen regularly at The Ark during Aug (IH, MC).

**STRIGIDAE OWLS**

***Bubo capensis* Cape Eagle Owl M:** singles at Hell's Gate NP 20 Aug and 23 Sep (TS).

***Glaucidium tephronotum* Red-chested Owlet R:** calling before dawn most mornings in Trans-Mara forest (QDS 61C) during Jan–Feb (LAB).

***Otus leucotis* White-faced Scops Owl E:** a few around Lokichoggio 11–12 Aug (MACC, DAT).

**CAPRIMULGIDAE NIGHTJARS**

***Caprimulgus clarus* Slender-tailed Nightjar R:** 1 Lokichoggio 13 Aug (MACC, DAT); 4 ringed at Ngulia 22 Nov–21 Dec (GCB *et al.*).



**Caprimulgus donaldsoni** Donaldson-Smith's Nightjar R: 9 ringed at Ngulia 21–24 Nov (GCB *et al.*).

**Caprimulgus fraenatus** Dusky Nightjar R: several records from Nairobi NP between Jun and Aug (DAT), several Lake Elmenteita Jun–Oct (MACC), 10 ringed Ngulia 22 Nov–22 Dec (GCB *et al.*).

**Caprimulgus inornatus** Plain Nightjar R: 1 near Lokichoggio 14 Aug (MACC, DAT), 1 Kerio Valley below Kabarnet 20 Oct (NW), 31 ringed Ngulia 21 Nov–21 Dec with most between 21 and 24 Nov (GCB *et al.*).

**Macrodipteryx longipennis** Standard-winged Nightjar R: adult male Lake Baringo 2 Nov (BWF).

**Macrodipteryx vexillarius** Pennant-winged Nightjar R: a few nightly at The Ark 18–20 Jul, singles Lake Naivasha 23 Jul and 17 Aug (several observers).

#### APODIDAE SWIFTS

**Apus barbatus** Black Swift R: >250 near Nanyuki 1 Aug (DEW), >100 Mara GR 15 Aug (DEW).

**Apus horus** Horus Swift R: >300 Lake Nakuru NP 18 Mar (DAT).

**Apus melba** Alpine Swift M: 1 Maralal 14 Oct (ND).

**Scoutedenapus myoptilus** Scarce Swift R: a few Kiambu district Jul–Nov (JRPC), flocks of up to 50 around Kakamega 9–11 Aug (DEW), 1 Ngurumans 10 Dec (DAT), >10 Tsavo West NP 19 Dec (DAT).

#### ALCEDINIDAE KINGFISHERS

**Ceryle maxima** Giant Kingfisher E: 1 Kilifi Creek 1 Apr (JHF), 2 Kitich, Mathews Range 13–16 May (SR).

**Alcedo quadibrachys** Shining Blue Kingfisher S(A): 1 on stream N of Alupe, Busia district 21 Aug (BWF).

#### Third Kenya record.

**Halcyon leucocephala** Grey-headed Kingfisher M: 7 ringed (2 at night) at Ngulia 21–28 Nov (GCB *et al.*).

**Halcyon senegaloides** Mangrove Kingfisher N: >50 in mangroves around Vanga on Kenya–Tanzania border 29 April (TS).

**Ispidina picta** Pygmy Kingfisher E: 1 near Lokichoggio 13 Aug (MACC, DAT), 2–3 around Loiengalani 10–12 Oct (ND), 2 of the nominate race ringed Ngulia 23 Nov were the first for the site (GCB *et al.*).

#### MEROPIIDAE BEE-EATERS

**Merops nubicus** Carmine Bee-eater (records away from usual sites) M: 2 Lake Baringo 5 Jan (DKR), several Lake Baringo–Lake Bogoria 12 Nov (DEW), 3 Kisumu 18 Nov (DEW).

**Merops revoilii** Somali Bee-eater M: 1 near Manyani gate, Tsavo East NP 3 Feb (DF, DAT).

**Merops superciliosus** Madagascar Bee-eater E: several around Lokichoggio 12–14 Aug (MACC, DAT).

#### CORACIIDAE ROLLERS

**Coracias abyssinica** Abyssinian Roller R: 1 near Moi's Bridge 19 Jan (BWF), a few Nasolot GR (Turkwell River) 21–23 Sep (MACC).

## PHOENICULIDAE WOOD HOOPoes

***Phoeniculus granti*** Violet Wood Hoopoe E: 4 Lake Baringo 5 Aug (DEW), several around Lokichoggio 12–14 Aug (MACC, DAT), a few Nasolot GR (Turkwell River) 21–23 Sep (MACC).

## BUCEROTIDAE HORNbILLS

***Tockus hemprichii*** Hemprich's Hornbill R (away from Lake Baringo): 3 near Mogotio flying towards Menengai Crater 8 Apr (DAT).

***Bucorvus abyssinicus*** Abyssinian Ground Hornbill R: several groups on Lotokipi plains near Lokichoggio 12–14 Aug (MACC, DAT).

## CAPITONIDAE BARBETS

***Buccanodon duchaillui*** Yellow-spotted Barbet E (records away from Kakamega): singles near Fluospar mine in Kerio Valley (alt 1300 m) 21 Oct (NW), and at Kericho Arboretum 6 Nov (BWF).

***Trachylaemus purpuratus*** Yellow-billed Barbet E: recorded from the Trans-Mara forest (QDS 61C) during Jan and Feb (LAB).

***Pogoniulus leucomystax*** Moustached Green Tinkerbird M: recorded from the Ngurumans (Sep, Dec), Tambach, Tigon and Timau (all Sep) (SR, DAT).

## INDICATORIDAE HONEYGUIDES

***Indicator conirostris*** Thick-billed Honeyguide M: 1 Kakamega 20 Oct (ND).

***Indicator meliphilus*** Pallid Honeyguide R: recorded from Kongalal escarpment 18 Jan (BWF), Shimba Hills NP 15 Apr (RB), and Kibwezi Forest 19 Nov (BWF).

***Indicator variegatus*** Scaly-throated Honeyguide M: recorded from Lake Nakuru (Jan), Arabuko-Sokoke Forest (Feb), Kianyaga (Jun), Ngurumans (Sep), Kakamega (Sep) and Boni Forest (Sep) (several observers).

***Prodotiscus regulus*** Wahlberg's Honeybird M: 1 Lake Nakuru NP 22 Jan (DF, DAT).

## PICIDAE WOODPECKERS

***Dendropicos poecilolaemus*** Uganda Spotted Woodpecker R: 1 Mungatsi (Mumias district) 27 May (TS, JHF).

***Picoides obsoletus*** Brown-backed Woodpecker R: recorded from Kiambu district (Jan–Mar, Jun–Oct), Nairobi suburbs (Mar), and at 3000 m in *Hagenia* forest on Mt Kenya (Sep) (several observers).

## ALAUDIDAE LARKS

***Calandrella personata*** Masked Lark M: 2 in the Huri Hills 6 Aug (GC *et al.*).

***Calandrella somalica*** Rufous Short-toed Lark RN: hundreds present in Nairobi NP during Aug when the park was very dry (DAT).

***Eremopterix leucotis*** Chestnut-backed Sparrow Lark M: groups of >30 around Aruba, Tsavo East NP during Feb and Aug (DAT).

***Eremopterix signata*** Chestnut-headed Sparrow Lark M: >30 Buffalo Springs GR 15 Aug (BWF), >200 N of Kapado 21 Oct (RB).

***Galerida fremantlii*** Short-tailed Lark N: >75 Leroghi plains near Maralal 3 Aug were presumably of the race *megaensis* (DEW).

***Mirafraga albicauda*** Northern White-tailed Lark E: singles in the western Mara GR 30 Jan and 24 Aug (DAT, BWF).

**Mirafra cantillans Singing Bush Lark M:** a few singing at Buffalo Springs GR and around Aruba, Tsavo East NP mid Feb (BWF, DAT); 8 on the Leroghi plains near Maralal 13 Jul (NR); hundreds around Aruba, Tsavo East NP late Aug; an immature caught and ringed at night Ngulia, 20 Nov (GCB *et al.*).

**Mirafra hypermetra Red-winged Bush Lark E:** 2–3 near Lokichoggio close to the Kenya–Sudan border 14 Aug were presumed to be of the race *kidepoensis* (MACC, DAT); 4 Huri Hills 7–8 Aug (GC *et al.*).

#### HIRUNDINIDAE SWALLOWS AND MARTINS

**Hirundo atrocaerulea Blue Swallow R:** extreme dates at Mungatsi (Mumias district) were 25 May and 21 Aug (several observers).

#### DICRURIDAE DRONGOS

**Dicrurus adsimilis coracinus Velvet-mantled Drongo M:** 1 Kakamega Forest 20 Oct (ND); considered a good species by some authorities.

#### ORIOIDAE ORIOLES

**Oriolus auratus African Golden Oriole M:** an immature Nairobi NP 22 Jul (MO).

**Oriolus chlorocephalus Green-headed Oriole M:** 1 in mixed species flock Arabuko-Sokoke Forest 5 Feb (DF, DAT), pair and a juvenile Shimba Hills NP 1–2 Sep (DAT).

#### CORVIDAE CROWS

**Ptilostomus afer Piapiac M:** a few (max 5) near Busia and Alupe during Aug, Nov and Dec (several observers).

#### PARIDAE TITS

**Parus albiventris White-bellied Tit E:** 1 Lake Baringo 5 Aug (DEW).

#### REMIZIDAE PENDULINE TITS

**Remiz caroli African Penduline Tit MB:** a pair (race *sharpei*) building a nest near Cottar's Mara Camp 27 Aug (BWF); a pair (race *sharpei*) Ngurumans, 10 Dec (DAT).

**Remiz musculus Mouse-coloured Penduline Tit E:** 1 Tana Bridge 5 Nov (DEW).

#### SALPORNITHIDAE SPOTTED CREEPER

**Salpornis spilonota Spotted Creeper R:** singles near Kapenguria 17 Jan and 19 Jun (BWF, MACC). There have been very few records in recent years because of habitat loss.

#### TIMALIIDAE BABBLERS

**Trichastoma fulvescens Brown Illadopsis N:** >50 Kakamega Forest 11–12 Sep (DAT).

**Trichastoma pyrrhopterum Mountain Illadopsis R:** several Trans-Mara forest (QDS 61C) Jan–Feb (LAB). Other records from Saiwa Swamp NP (Jan and Sep) and Kericho Arboretum (Nov) (several observers).

**Trichastoma rufipennis Pale-breasted Illadopsis E:** 1 caught in Trans-Mara forest (QDS 61C) 15 Feb (LAB). See *Scopus* 14: 72.

**Turdoides hindei Hinde's Pied Babbler R:** group of 5 around Kianyaga township 23 Jun and 4 Sep (DAT); 1 near Tana Bridge 30 Jul (DEW).

#### CAMPEPHAGIDAE CUCKOO SHRIKES

**Campephaga flava Black Cuckoo Shrike M:** several Jan–Mar records from Mountain

Lodge, Lake Nakuru NP, Mara GR and Tsavo West NP (DAT); several in canopy flocks in Kakamega Forest 10–11 Aug (DEW); 4 ringed Ngulia Nov–Dec, including 1 caught at night on 26 Nov (GCB *et al.*).

***Campephaga phoenicea* Red-shouldered Cuckoo Shrike M:** pair resident at Mungatsi (Mumias district) throughout the year (several observers).

***Coracina caesia* Grey Cuckoo Shrike ME:** 1 Shimba Hills NP 1 May (TS), 1 Loita Hills 11 Dec (DAT), 1 Lake Elmenteita 16 Dec (MACC).

#### PYCNONOTIDAE BULBULS

***Andropadus gracilis* Little Grey Greenbul R:** a few Kakamega Forest 11–12 Sep (DAT).

***Andropadus importunus* Zanzibar Sombre Greenbul M:** several, including many juveniles, showing yellow eye-rings, ringed near Mito Andei mid Feb (DJP, DAT).

***Andropadus masukuensis* Shelley's Greenbul E:** 1 in mixed species party Kericho Arboretum 6 Nov (BWF).

***Andropadus tephrolaemus nigriceps* Mountain Greenbul M:** common in the Ngurumans Sep and Dec (SR, DAT). Considered by some authorities to warrant specific status.

***Chlorocichla flaviventris* Yellow-bellied Greenbul E:** 1 Meru Forest 12 Feb (BWF).

***Phyllastrephus baumanni* Toro Olive Greenbul R:** 1 Kakamega Forest 12 Sep (DAT).

#### TURDIDAE THRUSHES

***Alethe poliocephala* Brown-chested Alethe E:** present in the Trans-Mara forest (QDS 61C) Jan and Feb (LAB).

***Cercomela familiaris* Red-tailed Chat E:** 1 Huri Hills 7 Aug, presumably of the race *omoensis* (GC *et al.*).

***Cercomela scotocerca* Brown-tailed Rock Thrush E:** several around Lokichoggio 13–14 Aug (MACC, DAT).

***Cercotrichas hartlaubi* Brown-backed Scrub Robin R:** recorded from Kiambu district (Jun–Nov), Kianyaga (Sep), Naro Moru (Aug, Nov) and Mungatsi, Mumias district (Jan, Jul) (several observers).

***Cossypha natalensis* Red-capped Robin Chat M:** resident throughout the year in wooded areas of the NW Mara GR (BWF), 1 in Mathews Range mid May (SR), newly fledged juvenile Arabuko-Sokoke Forest 30 Aug (DAT), 1 near Fluospar mine, Kerio Valley 4 Oct (NW), an adult caught and ringed at night Ngulia 15 Nov was the second record for the site (GCB *et al.*), a few in the Ngurumans 10–11 Dec (DAT).

***Cossypha niveicapilla* Snowy-headed Robin Chat E:** present in the Trans-Mara forest (QDS 61C) in Jan and Feb (LAB).

***Dryocichloides poliopterus* Grey-winged Ground Robin RN:** resident all year in Saiwa Swamp NP, difficult to estimate numbers but at least 10 seen together after heavy rain on 8 Sep (DAT).

***Monticola rufocinerea* Little Rock Thrush R:** 1 singing in Ngong Hills 10 Feb (BWF), pair Kakamega 7 Apr (DAT), 1 Hell's Gate NP 17 Aug and 23 Nov (DEW), a near Kapenguria 9 Sep (DAT).

***Oenanthe bottae* Red-breasted Wheatear R:** several at edge of Lotikipi plains near Lokichoggio 13–14 Aug (MACC, DAT).



*Oenanthe lugens* Mourning Wheatear E: present near Fluospar mine, Kerio Valley during Nov and Dec (NW).

*Sheppardia aequatorialis* Equatorial Akalat E: present in Trans-Mara Forest (QDS 61C) during Jan and Feb (LAB).

*Sheppardia gunningi* East Coast Akalat R: recorded from Arabuko-Sokoke Forest in Aug, Sep and Dec (JHF, TS).

*Turdus fischeri* Spotted Ground Thrush R: 1 Diani Forest 21 Aug (DEW), >10 Gede Forest 29–30 Aug (DAT).

*Turdus pelios* African Thrush M: 1 Lake Elmenteita 8 Aug (MACC).

*Turdus piaggiae* Abyssinian Ground Thrush E: present in the Trans-Mara Forest (QDS 61C) Jan and Feb (LAB).

*Turdus tephronotus* Bare-eyed Thrush M: 1 Mwea National Reserve 28 Jan (RB), 1 near Kiunga 23 Sep (DAT), pair and nest Samburu Lodge 9 Nov (DEW).

#### SYLVIIDAE WARBLERS

*Acrocephalus baeticatus* African Reed Warbler M: 8 ringed Lake Naivasha Jan–Feb (SJT).

*Acrocephalus gracilirostris* Lesser Swamp Warbler MN: 94 ringed Lake Naivasha Jan–Feb, while during the period 2–5 Mar a marked influx/passage noted with 140 new birds ringed (SJT).

*Apalis alticola* Brown-headed Apalis E: pair Entasekera village in the Ngurumans 26–27 Sep (SR), 3 birds in same area 9–10 Dec (DAT). See *Scopus* 16: 57–58.

#### *First records for Kenya.*

*Bradypterus baboecala* Little Rush Warbler M: 18 ringed at Lake Naivasha Feb–Mar (SJT), 3 N of Mombasa 28 Jul (NR).

*Bradypterus barratti* Evergreen Forest Warbler E: present Trans-Mara Forest (QDS 61C) Jan and Feb (LAB).

*Bradypterus carpalis* White-winged Warbler M: several calling from papyrus swamp at Kisumu 14 Sep (DAT).

*Bradypterus cinnamomeus* Cinnamon Bracken Warbler E: present in Trans-Mara Forest (QDS 61C) Jan and Feb (LAB).

*Chloropeta gracilirostris* Papyrus Yellow Warbler R: 1 Kisumu Yacht Club area 3 Dec (BWF).

*Chloropeta similis* Mountain Yellow Warbler E: present in the Trans-Mara Forest (QDS 61C) Jan and Feb (LAB).

*Cisticola aberrans* Rock-loving Cisticola R: 3 pairs present all year on the Ooloolo escarpment NW Mara GR (BWF).

*Cisticola brachyptera* Siffling Cisticola E: pair near Kapenguria 23 Apr (DAT).

*Cisticola ruficeps* Red-pate Cisticola E: 2 (race *mongalla*) in mixed feeding party near Lokichoggio 13–14 Aug (MACC, DAT), see *Scopus* 15: 48.

*First record for Kenya of a bird considered by some authorities as warranting specific status.*

*Eremomela pusilla* Green-backed Eremomela M: party of 5 in Kerio Valley below Kabarnet 24 Jan (DF, DAT).

*Heliolais erythroptera* Red-winged Warbler R: pair still present at Awasi Jan–Apr, though thereafter only 1 seen—on 6 Nov (several observers).

*Phyllolais pulchella* Buff-bellied Warbler E: 2 near Lokichoggio 12 Aug (MACC, DAT).

*Prinia somalica* Pale Prinia M: 1 singing Ngulia airstrip 19 Nov (DJP).

*Prinia subflava* Tawny-flanked Prinia E: 1 (presumed nominate race) near Lokichoggio 14 Aug (MACC, DAT).

*Sylvietta leucophrys* White-browed Crombec M: several Kakamega Forest 9 Aug (DEW).

#### MUSCICAPIDAE FLYCATCHERS

*Melaenornis edolioides* Black Flycatcher E: 2 at Lake Baringo 29 Mar were new for the area (TS).

*Muscicapa caerulescens* Ashy Flycatcher NE: 11 in Diani Forest 21 Aug including 7 in one group (DEW), an immature caught and ringed Ngulia 24 Nov was new for the area (GCB *et al.*).

*Muscicapa gambagae* Gambaga Flycatcher S(B): at least two pairs breeding in the Kerio Valley below Kabarnet Mar–Apr (DKR, DAT), see *Scopus* 15: 137. A juvenile caught and ringed at night Ngulia 24 Nov (GCB *et al.*).

*Muscicapa lendu* Chapin's Flycatcher S(B): 2–3 seen regularly in Kakamega Forest throughout the year (several observers).

*Myioparus plumbeus* Lead-coloured Flycatcher M: singles reported from the Arabuko-Sokoke Forest 26 Jun and 25 Oct (JHF, ND).

*Batis minor* Black-headed Batis E: 1 near Chebloch, Kerio Valley 18 May (TS).

*Batis orientalis* Grey-headed Batis R: pair near Kapenguria 23 Apr and 28 May; several around Lokichoggio 12–15 Aug, 1 Kerio Valley below Kabarnet 7 Sep (several observers).

*Bias musicus* Black and White Flycatcher R: singles Meru Forest 10 Jul, 13 Aug, 17 Aug, 12 Sep and 29 Oct (several observers).

*Platysteira peltata* Black-throated Wattle-eye M: 1 near Mountain Lodge 2 Feb (ND), several in the Ngurumans 9–11 Dec (DAT).

#### MOTACILLIDAE WAGTAILS AND PIPITS

*Anthus caffer* Little Tawny Pipit R: 1 NW Mara GR 20 Mar (DAT).

*Anthus similis* Long-billed Pipit E: several around Lokichoggio 12–14 Aug (MACC, DAT).

*Anthus sokokensis* Sokoke Pipit R: several sightings Arabuko-Sokoke Forest 15–26 Jun, 26 Jul (JHF).

*Motacilla clara* Mountain Wagtail M: pair Hell's Gate NP 17 Aug (DEW).

#### MALACONOTIDAE BUSH SHRIKES

*Dryoscopus gambensis* Northern Puffback M: pair Kisumu 12 Aug (DEW).

*Dryoscopus pringlii* Pringle's Puffback E: 1 in dry scrub between Ngong Hills and Olorgesailie 22 Nov (BWF).

*Laniarius barbarus* Black-headed Gonolek E: fairly common Nasolot GR (Turkwell River) late Sep (MACC).

***Laniarius mufumbiri* Papyrus Gonolek R:** several recorded throughout the year from Kisumu and Usengi papyrus swamps (several observers).

***Laniarius ruficeps* Red-naped Bush Shrike R:** several in thick bush near Mtito Andei 22 Feb (DJP, DAT). Several in thick coastal scrub south of Kiunga 23 Sep (DAT) presumed to have been of the race *kismayensis*.

***Malaconotus multicolor* Many-coloured Bush Shrike E:** present in the Trans-Mara Forest (QDS 61C) Jan and Feb (LAB). M: also recorded from Kabarnet Forest (Apr) and Meru Forest (Sep) (several observers).

#### LANIIDAE SHRIKES

***Corvinella melanoleuca* Magpie Shrike N:** present throughout the year near Cottar's Mara Camp, E Mara GR; max 16 on 27 Aug mobbing a snake (BWF).

#### PRIONOPIIDAE HELMET SHRIKES

***Prionops poliophaga* Grey-crested Helmet Shrike R:** >6 Lake Nakuru NP 22 Jan (DF, DAT).

#### STURNIDAE STARLINGS

***Cinnyricinclus femoralis* Abbott's Starling R:** >15 (adults and juveniles) Kieni Forest 23 Jun; pair with 1 juvenile Narô Moru gate, Mt Kenya NP 5 and 11 Sep (DF, DAT, TS).

***Creatophora cinerea* Wattled Starling M:** a few in coastal scrub S of Kiunga 23 Sep (DAT); 3 caught and ringed at night at Ngulia 24 and 26 Nov (GCB *et al.*).

***Lamprotornis chalcurus* Bronze-tailed Starling RE:** a few near the Fluospar mine in Kerio Valley in Jan (NW).

***Lamprotornis corruscus* Black-breasted Glossy Starling N:** influx of many hundreds into the Arabuko-Sokoke Forest noted 23 Aug (JHF).

***Lamprotornis purpureus* Purple Glossy Starling R:** present in small numbers at Mungatsi (Mumias district) 27 May and 10 Sep and near Alupe (Busia district) 5 Nov (several observers).

***Lamprotornis splendidus* Splendid Glossy Starling M:** >20 Saiwa Swamp NP 22 Apr (DAT), 15 near Kapenguria 28 May (TS), a pair near Alupe (Busia district) with *L. purpureus* 5 Nov (BWF).

***Onychognathus salvadorii* Bristle-crowned Starling E:** 3 Huri Hills 3 Aug (GC *et al.*).

***Poeoptera kenricki* Kenrick's Starling N:** >10 Mountain Lodge 20 Jan (DF, DAT); hundreds Meru forest Jul and Aug (several observers).

***Poeoptera stuhlmanni* Stuhlmann's Starling E:** several in forest N of Eldama Ravine 15 May (MACC).

***Speculipastor bicolor* Magpie Starling R:** a few in thick coastal scrub S of Kiunga 23 Sep (DAT).

***Spreo shelleyi* Shelley's Starling R:** several (including juveniles) around Lokichoggio 12–14 Aug (MACC, DAT).

#### NECTARINIIDAE SUNBIRDS

***Antheptes longuemarei* Violet-backed Sunbird M:** pair near Kapenguria 17 Jan and 23 Apr (several observers).

***Anthreptes neglectus* Uluguru Violet-backed Sunbird M:** 1 Shimba Hills NP 2 Sep (DAT).

***Anthreptes platurus* Pygmy Sunbird S(B):** a pair near the Fluospar mine, Kerio Valley alt 1550 m 21 Oct (NW).

***Nectarinia habessinica* Shining Sunbird R:** singles Samburu GR 12 Jul (NR) and 2 Aug (DEW); several around Lokichoggio 12–14 Aug (MACC, DAT).

***Nectarinia pulchella* Beautiful Sunbird E:** 1 Lake Elmenteita 19 Oct (MACC), 1 Ibonia estate (Kiambu district) 30 Oct–1 Nov (JRPC).

***Nectarinia superba* Superb Sunbird E:** a pair Mungatsi (Mumias district) 2 Dec (BWF).

*The first Kenya record for over 50 years.*

#### PLOCEIDAE WEAVERS

***Anaplectes rubriceps* Red-headed Weaver E:** 9 males and 2 females (race *jubaensis*) building nests in baobab tree S of Kiunga 23 Sep (DAT).

*First record of this race from Kenya; see Scopus 15: 49.*

***Anomalospiza imberbis* Parasitic Weaver R:** 1 Mara GR mid Feb (ND), several in Mumias and Kakamega districts May–Jul (NR, TS).

***Euplectes hartlaubii* Marsh Widowbird E:** 1 near Kapenguria (Apr–May) was north of the normal range and at a much higher altitude (DAT, TS).

***Ploceus golandi* Clarke's Weaver R:** several records from the Arabuko-Sokoke Forest 13 and 29 Jun, 19 and 30 Aug (JHF *et al.*).

***Ploceus heuglini* Heuglin's Masked Weaver R:** male near Kapenguria 23 Apr (DAT), 5 males and 1 female at Kiminini colony (near Kitale) 28 May (JAF, TS).

***Ploceus luteolus* Little Weaver E:** records of single males (race *kavirondensis*) in NW Mara GR 4 Nov and in E Mara GR 7 Dec (BWF, DAT).

***Bubalornis niger* Red-billed Buffalo Weaver E:** 1 Ahero Rice Scheme 17 Mar (DAT).

***Passer castanopterus* Somali Sparrow R:** >20 around Lokichoggio Catholic Mission 10–12 Oct (ND).

***Vidua hypocherina* Steel Blue Whydah ME:** 2–3 around Olorgesailie 8 Mar (DAT), 1 near Kisumu 17 Mar (DAT), 1 Huri Hills 9 Aug (GC *et al.*).

#### ESTRILDIDAE WAXBILLS

***Estrilda erythronotus* Black-cheeked Waxbill E:** several (race *charmosyna*) around Lokichoggio 12 Aug (MACC, DAT).

***Estrilda troglodytes* Black-rumped Waxbill M:** recorded from Mungatsi (Mumias district) 20 Feb and 28 Nov and from Ahero Rice Scheme 27 Jan (BWF, DF, DAT, TS).

***Lagonosticta rhodopareia* Jameson's Firefinch M:** recorded from Ngulia 7 Jan and 20 Dec, Mtito Andei 9 Oct, Msambweni (south coast) late Apr (TS, SJT, DAT).

***Mandingoa nitidula* Green-backed Twinspot E:** 1 Ng'angao Forest, Taita Hills 25 Feb (RB), 1 Windsor Country Club, Kiambu district 28 Nov (JRPC).

***Nigrita canicapilla* Grey-headed Negro Finch M:** 1 Ibonia estate, Kiambu district 1 Jul (JRPC).



***Ortygospiza locustella* Locust Finch E:** flock of 25 in grassland near Alupe (Kenya-Uganda border, Busia district) 31 Aug, presumed race *uelensis* (TS); see *Scopus* 15: 133.

*First Kenya record.*

***Pyrenestes ostrinus* Black-bellied Seed-cracker E:** a pair Mungatsi (Mumias district) 22 Sep (TS); see *Scopus* 15: 133.

*First Kenya record.*

***Pytilia afra* Orange-winged Pytilia R:** flock of >6 Golini, Shimba Hills at c. 300 m Jan and Feb (MR), and 1 there on 20 Dec (MR).

***Amadina fasciata* Cut-throat E:** common around Lokichoggio 11–14 Aug (MACC, DAT).

FRINGILLIDAE BUNTINGS, CANARIES, SEED-EATERS

***Emberiza striolata* House Bunting M:** several around Loiengalani 10–12 Oct (ND).

***Linurgus olivaceus* Oriole Finch M:** 1 Kakamega Forest 20 Oct (ND).

***Serinus donaldsoni* Grosbeak Canary E:** race *buchanani*: 2 E Mara GR 22 Jul (NR), 2 Lukenya (Athi River) 24 Jul (NR). race *donaldsoni* present Nasolot GR (Turkwell River) 22–23 Sep (MACC).

***Serinus koliensis* Papyrus Canary R:** records of up to 10 birds in Kisumu papyrus swamps Mar, Jul, Aug, Sep and Nov (several observers).

***Serinus reichardi* Stripe-breasted Seed-eater R:** several in song at top of Kongalali escarpment 22–23 Apr, 28 May, 9 Sep; 1 at Timau/Isiolo junction 17 Aug (several observers).

## Kenya Palaearctic species

***Ixobrychus m. minutus* Little Bittern R:** singles Lake Naivasha 13 Jan, 4 Mar (SJT), 1 near Loiengalani 11 Oct (ND).

***Ciconia ciconia* White Stork N:** >2000 Mara GR 24 Feb, >1000 Nakuru 18 Mar, >1000 Kakamega 20 Mar; c. 50 and >14 overwintering in Mara GR 27 Jul and 13 Aug; >2400 Kisumu 17 Nov, >1500 Mara GR 22 Nov (PRAD, BWF, DKR, DEW).

***Ciconia nigra* Black Stork R:** singles Nairobi NP 11 and 21 Jan, 2 Oct; 2 Buffalo Springs GR 7 Oct, 6 Maralal 14 Oct, 1 Kapedo 21 Oct, 1 Kiambu 3 Nov (RB, JRPC, ND, DKR, TS, SJT).

***Patalea leucorodia* Eurasian Spoonbill R:** singles Lake Naivasha 27 Feb and Lake Nakuru 24 Aug (BWF).

***Circus macrourus* Pallid Harrier D:** early one at Lake Baringo 17 Sep (TS).

***Circus pygarrus* Montagu's Harrier D:** adult male, Mara GR 27 Jul (PRAD).

***Accipiter nisus* Eurasian Sparrowhawk S(B):** 1 female Ngulia 20 Dec (KM, DJP, DAT).

***Aquila heliaca* Imperial Eagle S(B):** juvenile Voi 22 Feb (DJP, DAT).

***Aquila clanga* Greater Spotted Eagle S(B):** adult Timau 7 Nov (DEW).

- Aquila pomarina* Lesser Spotted Eagle R: recorded 19 Oct–7 Dec from Lake Elmenteita, Nairobi, Kilgoris, Timau, Samburu and Ngulia. N: max: 6 at Ngulia 18 Nov (several observers).
- Buteo rufinus* Long-legged Buzzard S(B): 1 Voi 22 Feb (DJP, DAT) and 1 near Naro Moru 22 Nov (TS).
- Hieraetus pennatus* Booted Eagle R: recorded from Lake Nakuru NP (Jan), Mito Andei and Voi (Mar), Nairobi NP (Oct), Buffalo Springs GR (Oct), Shimba Hills NP (Oct), Ngulia (Dec) (several observers).
- Pernis apivorus* Honey Buzzard R: singles recorded from Buffalo Springs GR (Feb), Voi and Taita Hills (Feb), near Meru (Oct), Lake Nakuru NP (Oct), Lake Jipe (Nov) (several observers).
- Falco amurensis* Eastern Red-footed Falcon R: marked passage across Naro Moru plains 13 Mar (DKR, DT); 1 Kiboko 17 Nov (GCB), 15 near Ngulia 17 Nov and 2–3 there 23–25 Nov (BWF, DH, DJP), 1 Solio Ranch 6 Dec (DJP).
- Falco cherrug* Saker Falcon S(B): 1 on Magadi side of the Ngurumans at 2000 m on 28 Oct (AB).
- Falco concolor* Sooty Falcon R: 1 Kedong Valley 23 Mar (DKR), 2 Buffalo Springs GR 28 Oct (BWF), singles Nyeri and Samburu GR 6 and 8 Nov (DEW), 1 Kiboko 17 Nov (GCB), 2 Ngulia 22 Nov (DJP, DH *et al.*), 1 Ngulia 26 Nov (DJP).
- Falco eleonora* Eleonora's Falcon R: singles at Buffalo Springs GR 28 Oct and Lake Nakuru NP 1 Nov (BWF, DKR).
- Falco pelegrinoides* Barbary Falcon S(A): adult perched at Ngulia 22 Dec (DJP, DH, *et al.*).
- Falco subbuteo* Eurasian Hobby D: a late bird at Kitale 28 May (TS).
- Crex crex* Corncrake R: singles caught and ringed Ngulia 5 Jan and 14 Dec (SJT, DJP, GCB, DH); 1 in rank grass near Nyaharuru (Thomson's Falls) 28 Nov (BWF).
- Haematopus ostralegus* Oystercatcher R: 1 Mida Creek 1 Sep (RB).
- Charadrius asiaticus* Caspian Plover D: early flocks (>30) Mara GR from 12 Aug (DKR).
- Charadrius alexandrinus* Kentish Plover RE: 1 Lake Baringo 7 Dec, 1 Lake Elmenteita 8–9 Dec (MACC, DJP, DH).
- Charadrius mongolus* Mongolian Sandplover E inland: 1 Mara GR 15 Aug (DEW), 1 Lake Elmenteita 8–9 Dec (MACC, DJP, DH *et al.*).
- Pluvialis squatarola* Grey Plover inland: 1 Lake Baringo 12 Nov (DEW), 2 Lake Nakuru NP 4 Dec (BWF), 1 Mara GR in almost full breeding plumage 5 Dec (BWF), 1 Lake Elmenteita 8–9 Dec (MACC, DJP, DH).
- Numenius arquata* Curlew inland: 3 Lake Elmenteita 21 Oct (MACC).
- Tringa erythropus* Spotted Redshank E away from usual sites: 1 near Naro Moru Jan–Mar (DAT), singles Limuru Pond, Nairobi NP, Lake Magadi (Feb) (BWF), early arrival at Mida Creek 1 Sep (RB); singles Ahero Rice Scheme and Amboseli NP 18 and 25 Nov (DEW). N: >10 Lake Nakuru NP 22 Jan (DF, DAT).
- Tringa totanus* Redshank R: 1 Mida Creek 5 Feb (DF, DAT), 1 Loiengalani 12 Oct (ND), 1 Lake Nakuru NP 4 Dec (BWF).

- Xenus cinereus* Terek Sandpiper inland: 1 Lake Elmenteita 7 Sep (MACC), 1 Lake Baringo 29 Nov (BWF) and to 7 Dec (DJP, DH).
- Gallinago media* Great Snipe RD: 2 Mungatsi (Mumias district) 27 May and 1 there 28 May (TS, JHF).
- Calidris alba* Sanderling inland: 1 Lake Naivasha 23 Nov (DEW).
- Calidris temminckii* Temminck's Stint E away from usual Rift Valley sites: 2 Ahero Rice Scheme 27 Jan (DF, DAT), 1 Amboseli NP 25 Nov (RB).
- Limosa lapponica* Bar-tailed Godwit N: 11 Mida Creek 29 Sep was a high count (TS).
- Limosa limosa* Black-tailed Godwit N: 7 Lake Nakuru NP 7 Aug may have oversummered (DEW), >40 there by 23 Nov (DEW). Small numbers also reported from Lake Elmenteita and Ahero Rice Scheme (DJP).
- Phalaropus lobatus* Red-necked Phalarope R: regularly c. 8 km off Kilifi late Dec with max >130 on 28 Dec (TS).
- Stercorarius* sp. skua: a first-year bird, probably *S. parasiticus* Arctic Skua at Lake Nakuru NP 28 Oct and 13 Nov (RW, DEW).
- Larus ridibundus* Black-headed Gull N: >200 Lake Nakuru NP 21 Feb, many in full breeding plumage (BWF).
- Sterna albifrons* Little Tern E: 1 adult Lake Baringo 18 Aug (BWF).
- Streptopelia turtur* Turtle Dove S(A): 2 at Loiengalani 11 Oct (ND).
- Fifth Kenya record.*
- Otus scops* Scops Owl R: 1 caught and ringed Ngulia 22 Dec (GCB *et al.*).
- Cuculus poliocephalus* Asian Lesser Cuckoo R: first-year birds caught and ringed Ngulia 27 Nov and 19 Dec (GCB, DJP).
- Caprimulgus europaeus* Eurasian Nightjar R: 67 ringed Ngulia 20 Nov–19 Dec of which 47 were between 20 and 21 Nov (GCB, DJP).
- Apus apus* Eurasian Swift M: 20 seen 25–30 km out to sea off Kilifi 26 Dec (TS).
- Upupa epops epops* Hoopoe R: 1 Buffalo Springs GR 5 Dec (DJP).
- Coracias garrulus* Eurasian Roller E: 1 Kiambu 17 Feb was an unusual wintering locality (JRPC).
- Jynx torquilla* Eurasian Wryneck S(B): 1 Windsor Country Club, Kiambu district 3 Dec (JRPC).
- Cercotrichas galactotes* Rufous Bush Chat N: 38 ringed at Ngulia 15–25 Nov (GCB, DJP *et al.*).
- Irania gutturalis* Irania M: 2–3 in song near Athi River and east of Mito Andei 10 Mar (DJP). D: singles around Archer's Post 9 Nov (DEW). N: 412 ringed at Ngulia 13 Nov–22 Dec of which 302 were between 20 and 26 Nov (GCB, DJP *et al.*).
- Luscinia luscinia* Sprosser N: 4399 ringed at Ngulia 15 Nov–22 Dec (GCB, DJP *et al.*).
- Luscinia megarhynchos* Nightingale N: 95 ringed at Ngulia 15 Nov–22 Dec of which 87 were between 15 and 27 Nov (GCB, DJP *et al.*).
- Oenanthe oenanthe* Northern Wheatear D: 1 near Lokichoggio 11 Aug may have oversummered (MACC, DAT).
- Phoenicurus phoenicurus* Redstart R: singles at Buffalo Springs GR 30 Oct,

- Mungatsi (Mumias district) 28 Nov, Lake Baringo 29 Nov and 7 Dec, and Mara GR 7 Dec (BWF, DJP, DH, TS).
- Acrocephalus arundinaceus* Great Reed Warbler M: 20 ringed Lake Naivasha 13 Jan–5 Mar (SJT). 1 in song Aruba Dam, Tsavo East NP 22 Feb (DJP). 10 ringed Ngulia 14–21 Dec (GCB, DJP *et al.*).
- Acrocephalus griseldis* Basra Reed Warbler R: wintering at two sites 4–5 km east of Mtito Andei with >3 at one site in song from early Jan–mid Mar (DJP). 1 ringed Lake Naivasha mid Feb (SJT); 62 ringed Ngulia 20 Nov–21 Dec (GCB, DJP *et al.*).
- Acrocephalus palustris* Marsh Warbler N: a small number wintering, moulting and in song Mtito Andei Jan–Mar, and >2 in song Aruba Dam, Tsavo East NP 22 Feb (DJP). 5627 ringed at Ngulia 15 Nov–22 Dec with max of 964 on 24 Nov (GCB, DJP *et al.*).
- Acrocephalus schoenobaenus* Sedge Warbler M: 31 ringed Lake Naivasha Jan–Feb and 43 ringed 2–5 Mar (SJT). 11 ringed Ngulia 22 Nov–22 Dec (GCB, DJP *et al.*).
- Acrocephalus scirpaceus* Reed Warbler M: 4 ringed Lake Naivasha Jan–Feb and 3 more 2–5 Mar (SJT); 8 ringed Ngulia 23 Nov–20 Dec (GCB, DJP *et al.*).
- Hippolais icterina* Icterine Warbler R: 1 E Mara GR 6 Dec (BWF) and 1 NW Mara GR 10 Dec (SR).
- Hippolais languida* Upcher's Warbler R: 43 ringed Ngulia 15 Nov–20 Dec (GCB, DJP *et al.*).
- Hippolais olivetorum* Olive-tree Warbler R: 60 ringed Ngulia 15 Nov–17 Dec of which 58 were between 15 and 25 Nov (GCB, DJP *et al.*).
- Locustella fluviatilis* River Warbler R: recorded wintering at Mtito Andei 6 Jan–25 Mar when 4 caught and ringed, 3 of them in moult (DJP). 483 ringed Ngulia 15 Nov–22 Dec with max of 63 on 17 Dec (GCB, DJP *et al.*). >4 in song Samburu GR 6 Dec (DJP).
- Phylloscopus collybita* Chiffchaff RE: present in the Trans-Mara Forest (QDS 61C) Jan and Feb (LAB), 2 singing Met Station on Mt Kenya 19 Feb (RB); 1 Kakamega Forest 17 Nov (DEW).
- Phylloscopus sibilatrix* Wood Warbler S(B): Ngulia: 2 caught and ringed 26 Nov and 1 on 22 Dec (GCB, DJP *et al.*).
- Phylloscopus trochilus* Willow Warbler M: an albino at Lake Elmenteita 18–28 Oct (MACC).
- Sylvia borin* Garden Warbler M: 84 ringed at Ngulia 15 Nov–22 Dec (GCB, DJP *et al.*).
- Sylvia communis* Whitethroat N: 4612 ringed Ngulia 15 Nov–22 Dec, max 722 on 21 Nov (GCB, DJP *et al.*).
- Sylvia nisoria* Barred Warbler R: 63 ringed Ngulia 15 Nov–22 Dec (GCB, DJP *et al.*).
- Ficedula* sp. a female or immature Kakamega Forest 30 Nov (BWF).
- Lanius minor* Lesser Grey Shrike D: 1 Lake Jipe 6 Feb may have been wintering (DF, DAT); 1 Buffalo Springs GR 29 Oct (BWF), 1 near Alupe (Busia district) 5 Nov (BWF).
- Lanius nubicus* Nubian Shrike S(A): singles from Lake Baringo 2 Nov, 29 Nov and 7 Dec (at least 2 individuals involved) (several observers).



***Lanius senator* Woodchat Shrike R:** 2 near Lake Baringo 5 Feb (ND) and 1 E Mara GR 28 and 30 Jan (RNH) and 12 Feb (ND).

### Tanzania: Afrotropical records

supplied by A.L. Archer, N.E. and E.M. Baker, M.A.C. Coverdale,  
D. Moyer, and I. Robertson

- Podiceps nigricollis* Black-necked Grebe RN:** >100 Lake Ndutu, Serengeti NP 1 Jan.
- Ixobrychus sturmii* Dwarf Bittern R:** 1 Tarangire NP 9 Feb.
- Gypaetus barbatus* Lammergeyer R:** 1 near Mt Meru (Arusha NP) 22 Dec.
- Accipiter minullus* Little Sparrowhawk R:** singles Mbeya district Aug, Nov, Dec.
- Butastur rufipennis* Grasshopper Buzzard R:** 1 S of Mikumi 1 Dec.
- Kaupifalco monogrammicus* Lizard Buzzard E:** 1 Lake Manyara NP 19 Feb.
- Aviceda cuculoides* Cuckoo Hawk R:** pair seen daily during Aug in Mbeya district.
- Macheiramphus alcinus* Bat Hawk R:** 1–2 Mbizi Mts near Sumbawanga 15 Nov.
- Turnix sylvatica* Button Quail M:** female Mugumu, N Serengeti 26 Dec.
- Sarothrura elegans* Buff-spotted Pygmy Crane R:** 1 calling throughout the night in Lulanda Forest, Mufindi district 3 Nov.
- Sarothrura rufa* Red-chested Pygmy Crane R:** heard commonly in reed beds in Sumbawanga district Jul and Nov.
- Vanellus senegallus* Wattled Plover MB:** pair and 2 young Grumeti River, Serengeti 25 Dec.
- Columba delegorguei* Bronze-naped Pigeon E:** 4 Ngezi Forest, Pemba Is 21 Dec.  
*First record for Pemba; 1 previous record from Zanzibar in Jan 1934.*
- Treron australis pembaensis* Pemba Green Pigeon M:** several in Ngezi Forest, Pemba 17–23 Dec.
- Poicephalus robustus* Brown-necked Parrot R:** several Mbizi Mts (near Sumbawanga) 14–17 Nov.
- Tauraco livingstonii schalowi* Schalow's Turaco E:** 1 in riverine woodland in Western Corridor, Serengeti 25 Dec. First record from northern Tanzania. Considered a distinct species by several authorities; see *Scopus* 14: 86.
- Cercococcyx montanus* Barred Long-tailed Cuckoo R:** very common with several calling daily in number of forests in Mufindi district Sep–Dec.
- Clamator glandarius* Great Spotted Cuckoo RN:** up to 20 daily in Ndutu area, Serengeti NP 14–18 Feb.
- Clamator jacobinus* Black and White Cuckoo R:** 1 Crater Highlands near Ngorongoro 12 Feb, 2–3 Ndutu area (Serengeti NP) 14–18 Feb, 1 Lake Manyara NP 19 Feb, 2 Arusha NP 21 Feb.
- Clamator levaillantii* Levaillant's Cuckoo R:** singles near Mkowe (near Tatanda) 22 Nov and near Mbeya 21 Dec.
- Cuculus clamosus* Black Cuckoo R:** singles south of Korogwe Jan, Karatu (Crater Highlands) Feb, and near Sumbawanga Nov.

*Cuculus gularis* African Cuckoo R: 4–5 calling Ndutu area, Serengeti NP 14–18 Feb.  
*Centropus grillii* Black Cuckoo R: 2 Tarangare NP 10 Feb, >6 Seronera valley, Serengeti NP 13 Feb.

*Tyto capensis* Cape Grass Owl R: singles reported from Sumbawanga district Jul and Nov, Makambako (N of Njombe) 6 Dec, and Mufindi district 20 Dec.

*Glaucidium capense* Barred Owlet R: 1 in *Brachystegia* woodland N of Mikumi 25 Nov.

*Otus rutilus pembaensis* Pemba Scops Owl M: heard nightly at Kunguni, Pemba Is 17–23 Dec.

*First records of this Pemba endemic for almost 50 years.*

*Caprimulgus natalensis* White-tailed Nightjar RB: female and 2 newly fledged young near Mkowe, Sumbawanga district 9 Oct.

*Apus barbatus* Black Swift R: >6 Ngurdoto Crater, Arusha NP 21 Feb.

*Apus horus* Horus Swift RE: small flock Mikumi NP 18 Mar; 3–4 with other swifts and swallows, base of Mbeya range, Mbeya district Nov–early Dec.

*Buccanodon whytii* Whyte's Barbet R: 3 in fruiting tree, Mbizi Forest Reserve near Sumbawanga 7 Oct.

*Jynx ruficollis* Red-throated Wryneck R: a pair in *Brachystegia* woodland near Mikumi village 25 Nov.

*Smithornis capensis* African Broadbill R: 2–3 in woodland at Lake Duluti near Arusha 19–20 Feb. B: several Luhega Forest Reserve, Mufindi district, including pair and nest with 3 eggs, 28–29 Nov.

*Hirundo atrocaerulea* Blue Swallow R: 4 on edge of Ihan'gana Forest Reserve, Mufindi district 28 Nov.

*Hirundo daurica* Red-rumped Swallow E: singles near Chalinze (W of Dar es Salaam) 4 Jan and 22 Dec.

*Hirundo griseopyga* Grey-rumped Swallow M: 2 at 300 m near Ifakara 2 Dec was a low altitude for this species.

*Corvus splendens* Indian House Crow E: 3 at Ruva bridge 31 Mar (70 km W of Dar es Salaam) further extends the range of this species.

*Phyllastrephus cerviniventris* Grey-olive Greenbul R: a few in woodland at Lake Duluti near Arusha 19–20 Feb.

*Dryocichloides bocagei* Bocage's Ground Robin S(A): frequent in ground water forest at Tanda Mbuga, Sumbawanga district 18–23 Nov.

*Dryocichloides poliopterus* Iringa Ground Robin R: 2–3 reported from Luisenga Stream Nature Reserve, Kigogo Forest Reserve and Luhega Forest Reserve, Mufindi district 5–7 Aug, Sep, 2 Nov, and 28–29 Nov.

*Swynnertonia swynnertonii* Swynnerton's Robin S(A): >6 daily in Luhega Forest Reserve, Mufindi district in Sep and on 29 Nov.

*Modulatrix orostruthus* Dappled Mountain Robin S(B): 3–6 birds recorded daily in Luhega Forest Reserve, Mufindi district throughout Sep. N: >10 in a 50-ha area of Luhega Forest Reserve, 29 Nov.

*Turdus fischeri* Spotted Ground Thrush R: 1 Pugu Hills forest near Dar es Salaam with *Neocossyphus rufus* Red-tailed Ant Thrush 15 Dec.

***Turdus litsipsirupa* Groundscraper Thrush R:** 3–5 at Tatanda (SW border area) 31 Jul and 10 Aug. **B:** daily in Mbeya district Oct–Nov with egg-laying late Sep–Oct. No birds seen after 25 Nov suggesting post-breeding dispersal away from the area.

***Turdus pelios* African Thrush E:** a pair (presumed race *stormsi*) at Tanda Mbuga, Sumbawanga district 18–23 Nov.

***Apalis chariessa* White-winged Apalis S(B):** 2–4 daily in mixed species flocks in Luhega Forest Reserve, Mufindi district in Sep.

***Cisticola pipiens* Chirping Cisticola E:** several family parties of 3–4 birds in reeds along the Mumba River at Mumba, Sumbawanga district 27 Jul and 2 collected. See *Scopus* 10: 101.

*First records for Tanzania and East Africa.*

***Cisticola aberrans* Rock-loving Cisticola R:** 3 pairs on rocky hillside in *Brachystegia* woodland at Tatanda (SW border area) 30 Jul and a pair in similar habitat in Mbeya district 8 Dec.

***Heliolais erythroptera* Red-winged Warbler R:** 1 near Mikumi 25 Nov.

***Erannornis albicauda* White-tailed Blue Flycatcher R:** recorded from SW Tanzania at Tatanda (Jul–Aug), Mbeya district (30 Aug), Mbizi Forest Reserve, Sumbawanga (7 Oct).

***Motacilla capensis* Cape Wagtail E:** pair near Mwimbi, Sumbawanga district 14 Aug were new for the area.

***Macronyx ameliae* Rosy-breasted Longclaw M:** several presumed to be of the race *altanus* near Tatanda 23 Nov.

***Zosterops senegalensis vaughani* Pemba White-eye M:** common around edges of Ngezi Forest, Pemba Is 17–23 Dec. Considered to warrant specific status by some authorities.

***Passer domesticus* House Sparrow E:** common in Mbalizi (10 km S of Mbeya) throughout the year; 3 Sumbawanga 11 Oct. The first confirmed records for the southwest of the country.

***Ortygospiza atricollis* Quailfinch E:** 3 Mikumi NP 31 Mar.

***Ortygospiza locustella* Locust Finch S(B):** several flocks in SW border areas, Oct–Nov.

***Pytilia afra* Orange-winged Pytilia R:** 2 Mikumi NP 17 Mar, 1 Morogoro 18 Mar.

***Ploceus burnieri* Kilombero Weaver M:** several females and non-breeding males near Ifakara 2 Dec.

***Serinus reichardi* Stripe-breasted Seed-eater RN:** >20 in *Brachystegia* woodland near Tatanda (SW border area) 30 Jul.

### Tanzanian Palaearctic records

supplied by N.E. and E.M. Baker, M.A.C. Coverdale, I. Robertson and T. Stevenson

***Aquila pomarina* Lesser Spotted Eagle RN:** >40 roosting on the ground 20 km S of Mbeya 23 Nov.

*Hieraaetus pennatus* Booted Eagle R: singles Ngorongoro 10 Feb, Lake Eyasi 8 Dec, Himu 30 Dec.

*Falco amurensis* Eastern Red-footed Falcon R: 1 Ngorongoro 11 Feb.

*Falco eleonora* Eleonora's Falcon R: 1 Ngorongoro 10 Feb.

*Numenius arquata* Curlew inland: 1 Lake Manyara 19 Feb.

*Calidris temminckii* Temminck's Stint R: 2 Lake Manyara 31 Oct.

*Fourth record for Tanzania.*

*Sterna albifrons* Little Tern M: 1 Lake Manyara NP 31 Oct.

*First inland record for Tanzania.*

*Caprimulgus europaeus* Eurasian Nightjar R: several Mbizi Mts near Sumbawanga 14–17 Nov.

*Upupa epops epops* Hoopoe R: 2 Lake Manyara NP 19 Feb.

*Only the second definitive record for Tanzania.*

*Irania gutturalis* Irania R: male Serengeti NP 25 Dec.

*Luscinia megarhynchos* Nightingale R: 1 in song Lake Manyara NP 10–20 Feb.

*Anthus cervinus* Red-throated Pipit M: 2 Ngorongoro Crater 11 Feb, several near Ndutu, Serengeti NP 14–18 Feb, >6 Lake Manyara NP 20 Feb.

*Lanius collurio* x *Lanius isabellinus* Red-backed x Red-tailed Shrike (hybrid) M: male at forest edge near Ngorongoro Crater 10 Feb.

### Uganda: Afrotropical records

supplied by J. Arinaitwe, J.S. Ash, M.A.C. Coverdale, R.J. Dowsett, F. Dowsett-Lemaire, C. Dranzoa, T.M. Gullick, and D.E. Pomeroy

*Anhinga rufa* African Darter M: several Kibumba Rice Scheme near Kampala 11 Mar.

*Ciconia episcopus* Woolly-necked Stork M: 2 Kampala 23 Jan, 11 near Kasenyi, QENP, 8 Mar.

*Bostrychia rara* Spot-breasted Ibis E: 2 Kirimia River, Bwamba lowlands 2–3 Mar; see *Scopus* 14: 73.

*First record for Uganda and East Africa.*

*Phoeniconaias minor* Lesser Flamingo N: c. 2600 Lake Munyanyange 9 Oct.

*Pteronetta hartlaubii* Hartlaub's Duck E: 1 flying down the Semliki River, Bwamba lowlands 1 Mar.

*First record for Uganda and East Africa.*

*Buteo auguralis* Red-necked Buzzard R: 1 Budongo Forest edge 7 Mar.

*Hieraaetus africanus* Cassin's Hawk Eagle E: 1 Budongo Forest 7 Mar.

*Himantornis haematopus* Nkulengu Rail S(A): 3 pairs heard in forest swamps in Bwamba lowlands 2–3 Mar. *Second record for Uganda.*

*Sarothrura rufa* Red-chested Pygmy Crake RE: 1 ringed Bwindi swamp, Impenetrable Forest 14 Feb; 1 heard Kajansi Fish Farm near Kampala 10 Mar. *There are only three previous old records for Uganda.*



- Neotis denhami* Denham's Bustard M: 1 40 km E of Masindi 10 Mar.
- Ros/ratula benghalensis* Painted Snipe R: >6 Doho Rice Scheme 27 May.
- Cercococcyx mechowi* Dusky Long-tailed Cuckoo R: common at Buhoma, Impenetrable Forest 17–19 Feb; several Kibale Forest 22–26 Feb, Bwamba Forest 1 Mar and Budongo Forest 6–9 Mar.
- Cercococcyx olivinus* Olive Long-tailed Cuckoo S(A): several Kibale Forest 23 Feb.
- Chrysococcyx flavicularis* Yellow-throated Green Cuckoo M: several daily in Bwamba lowlands 27 Feb–5 Mar.
- Clamator jacobinus* Black and White Cuckoo R: 1 Budongo Forest 7 Mar.
- Clamator levaillantii* Levaillant's Cuckoo R: singles Impenetrable Forest 15 and 19 Feb.
- Cuculus clamosus* Black Cuckoo R: several (all presumed to be of the race *gabonensis*) Impenetrable Forest 13–19 Feb, Bwamba lowlands 26 Feb–5 Mar, Budongo Forest 6–9 Mar.
- Scotopelia peli* Pel's Fishing Owl RE: nightly along the Semliki River, Bwamba lowlands 27 Feb–1 Mar, including juvenile(s). Previously only known in Uganda from Murchison Falls NP.
- Caprimulgus inornatus* Plain Nightjar R: 1 freshly killed on road 20 km W of Masindi 8 Mar.
- Apus horus* Horus Swift M: 6 at 2360 m in the Impenetrable Forest 16 Feb.
- Alcedo leucogaster* White-breasted Kingfisher R: 3 in Bwamba lowlands 2–4 Mar.
- Halcyon badia* Chocolate-backed Kingfisher M: common Budongo Forest 7–9 Mar.
- Tockus hartlaubii* Black Dwarf Hornbill S(A): singles Bwamba lowlands 27 Feb–5 Mar.
- Tropicranus albocristatus* White-crested Hornbill S(A): 1 Bwamba lowlands 1 Mar.  
*First Uganda record for almost 50 years.*
- Pogoniulus chrysoconus* Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird MB: a pair feeding young in nest at Kakoge, 80 km N of Kampala 6 Apr.  
*First breeding record for East Africa.*
- Prodotiscus insignis* Cassin's Honeyguide E: singles Kibale and Budongo Forests 25 Feb and 7 Mar.
- Pseudocalyptomena graueri* African Green Broadbill S(A): 2 near Bwindi swamp, Impenetrable Forest 15 Feb.
- Hirundo nigrita* White-throated Blue Swallow E: 2 pairs Semliki River, Bwamba lowlands 28 Feb–1 Mar (see *Scopus* 14: 73).  
*First record for Uganda and East Africa.*
- Kakamega poliothorax* Grey-chested Illadopsis M: 1 ringed Impenetrable Forest 18 Feb and retrapped during Mar.
- Phyllastrephus atripennis* Capuchin Babbler M: fairly common Bwamba lowlands 27 Feb–5 Mar.
- Phyllastrephus icterinus* Icterine Greenbul M: 1 ringed Bwamba lowlands early Mar.
- Phyllastrephus xavieri* Xavier's Greenbul M: common in the Bwamba lowlands 27 Feb–5 Mar.

- Cossypha roberti* White-bellied Robin Chat M: present at 1630 m in the Impenetrable Forest in Feb.
- Dryocichloides archeri* Archer's Ground Robin M: fairly common above 2000 m in the Impenetrable Forest 12–20 Feb.
- Turdus tanganjicae* Kivu Ground Thrush S(B): 1 seen and at least 3 heard at 1630 m in the Impenetrable Forest 18–19 Feb.
- Apalis nigriceps* Black-capped Apalis M: fairly common in Budongo Forest 7–9 Mar.
- Bradypterus carpalis* White-winged Warbler M: common in papyrus swamps at edges of the Kibale Forest Feb–Mar.
- Bradypterus graueri* Grauer's Rush Warbler M: common in Bwindi swamp at 2100 m in the Impenetrable Forest 13–15 Feb.
- Eremomela badiceps* Brown-crowned Eremomela M: common in the Budongo Forest 7–9 Mar.
- Hemitesia neumanni* Short-tailed Warbler S(A): fairly common at 1630 m in the Impenetrable Forest 18–19 Feb.
- Macrosphenus concolor* Grey Longbill S(A): 2 observations in the Budongo Forest 7–9 Mar.
- Phylloscopus budongoensis* Uganda Woodland Warbler M: present at two sites in Budongo Forest 7–9 Mar.
- Muscicapa cassini* Cassin's Grey Flycatcher E: at least 2 pairs on the Semliki River in the Bwamba lowlands 27 Feb–2 Mar.
- Batis ituriensis* Ituri Batis E: 2 pairs Budongo Forest 8 Mar, see *Scopus* 14: 74.  
*First records for Uganda and East Africa.*
- Megabyas flammulata* Shrike Flycatcher M: fairly common at Bwamba, Budongo and Kibale Forests Feb–Mar. N: >10 together in Kibale Forest 23 Feb.
- Dryoscopus gambensis* Northern Puffback E: 1 Budongo Forest 7 Mar was the first record for the area.
- Laniarius mufumbiri* Papyrus Gonolek RE: common in papyrus swamps on the edges of Kibale Forest during Feb.
- Malaconotus lagdeni* Lagden's Bush Shrike S(A): heard frequently in the Impenetrable Forest down to 2100 m 12–20 Feb, suggesting it may be more common than indicated by Britton (1980).
- Cinnyricinclus sharpii* Sharpe's Starling R: several in the Impenetrable Forest 13–14 Feb.
- Poeoptera lugubris* Narrow-tailed Starling E: 2 at Budongo Forest 6 Mar were new for the area.
- Nectarinia minulla* Tiny Sunbird M: 1 Kibale Forest 23 Feb.
- Ploceus aurantius* Orange Weaver RE: fairly common in secondary riverine woodland along the Semliki River, Bwamba lowlands 27 Feb–2 Mar were presumably nominate birds, not previously recorded in East Africa.
- Ploceus weynsi* Weyns' Weaver R: common in savanna near Budongo sawmills 9 Mar.
- Plocepasser mahali* White-browed Sparrow Weaver E: 1 near Busolwe, Tororo district 27 May.

*Nesocharis capistrata* Grey-headed Olive-back E: singles near Biso (W of Masindi) 29 Apr and near Butema (25 km SE of Hoima) 1 May.

*Spermophaga poliogenys* Grant's Bluebill M: fairly common in Bwamba lowlands 2–4 Mar.

*Parmoptila woodhousei* Red-fronted Antpecker M: singles at 1630 m in the Impenetrable Forest 19 Feb, and at Kibale Forest 25 Feb.

### Uganda: Palaearctic records

supplied by J.S. Ash, M.A.C. Coverdale, C. Dranzoa,  
T.M. Gullick, and D.E. Pomeroy

*Aquila nipalensis* Steppe Eagle RN: tens, with passage of >1000 *Buteo buteo* 25 km E of Masindi 10 Mar.

*Aquila pomarina* Lesser Spotted Eagle R: tens with passage of *B. buteo* as above.

*Buteo buteo vulpinus* Steppe Buzzard N: thousands migrating N over Budongo Forest 9 Mar and >1000 25 km E of Masindi 10 Mar.

*Milvus migrans* Black Kite N: >120 migrating N over northern end of Rwenzoris 26 Feb, and hundreds accompanying movement of *B. buteo* over Budongo 9 Mar and east of Masindi 10 Mar; >200 moving NE over Kibale Forest 3 Apr.

*Charadrius asiaticus* Caspian Plover N: c. 1700 near Kikorongo, QENP, 9 Mar.

*Tringa erythropus* Spotted Redshank R: 3 Kajansi Fish Farm, Kampala 10 Mar, 1 Kibimba Rice Scheme 11 Mar, 2 Kajansi 8 Apr.

*Tringa ochropus* Green Sandpiper M: 1 on forest stream near Sipi at c. 2600 m on Mt Elgon 14 Dec.

*Calidris temminckii* Temminck's Stint R: 3 Kajansi Fish Farm near Kampala 10 Mar.

*Limosa limosa* Black-tailed Godwit R: 2 Kazinga Channel, QENP, 7 Mar, 1 Kibimba Rice Scheme 11 Mar.

*Acrocephalus arundinaceus* Great Reed Warbler R: 1 in savanna near Budongo sawmills 9 Mar.

*Acrocephalus scirpaceus* Reed Warbler M: heard Bwamba lowlands 26 Feb and 1 Mar, also near Budongo sawmills 4 Mar.

*Phylloscopus sibilatrix* Wood Warbler S(B): 1 Budongo Forest edge 7 Mar.

*Ficedula albicollis semitorquata* Collared Flycatcher R: 1 male in savanna near Budongo sawmills 9 Mar.

*Lanius minor* Lesser Grey Shrike MD: 1 Sipi at c. 2100 m on western slope of Mt Elgon 16 Dec.

### Kenya: Afrotropical back records

*Macrodipteryx vexillarius* Pennant-winged Nightjar R: 3 at The Ark (Aberdare NP) 1 Aug 1989 (DAT).

*Lybius melanopterus* Brown-breasted Barbet E: 1 Malindi town 1 Dec 1987 (DEW).

*Indicator meliphilus* Pallid Honeyguide E: 1 immature Malindi town 1 Dec 1987 (DEW).

*Anthreptes longuemarei* Violet-backed Sunbird E: adult male in hills between Awasi and Kericho 21 Nov 1982 (DEW).

### Kenya: Palaearctic back records

*Ciconia nigra* Black Stork R: 2 Nairobi NP 19 Dec 1988 (SJT).

*Falco amurensis* Eastern Red-footed Falcon R: adult male with Lesser Kestrels *Falco naumanni* at Lake Baringo 17 Nov 1987 (DEW).

*Falco eleonora* Eleonora's Falcon R: 1 Kakamega town 21 Nov 1987 (DEW).

*Phalaropus lobatus* Red-necked Phalarope R: 1 Lake Nakuru NP 18 Nov 1987 (DEW).

*Xenus cinereus* Terek Sandpiper inland: 1 Lake Naivasha 27 Nov 1987 (DEW).

*Asio flammeus* Short-eared Owl S(A): 1 Lake Naivasha 18 Jan 1988 (DJP).

*Fifth Kenya record.*

### Corrections

*Scopus* 12: 121: the records for *Anas crecca*—9 Allia Bay 29 Jan and *Anas penelope*—1 Ileret 25 Jan and 21 Allia Bay 29 Jan were 1989 sightings and should be deleted; they were, however, correctly recorded in the 1989 report (*Scopus* 13: 121).

### List of observers for Kenya records

G. C. Backhurst	P. R. A. Davey	M. Hemphill	D. K. Richards
L. A. Bennun	N. Dymond (Cygnus Tours)	R. N. Hobbs	S. Rooke
A. Binks	J. H. Fanshawe	J. Hornbuckle	S. Rozwadowski
R. Bishop	B. W. Finch	KWWG (Kenya Wetlands Working Group)	T. Stevenson
G. Carr <i>et al.</i> (Venture Scout Expedition to the Huri Hills)	D. Fisher	M. Lissimore	D. Tomlinson
M. Clifton	R. Glen	K. Merom	D. A. Turner
M. A. C. Coverdale	P. Glover	M. Ogola	S. J. Tyler
M. Cramer	I. Hardy	D. J. Pearson	R. Wild
J. R. P. Cumberlege	C. Harris	N. Redman	N. Wilson
	D. Hasselquist <i>et al.</i>	M. Reid	D. E. Wolf
	P. Hemphill		P. Wootton



### East African Rare Birds Committee

During 1990 various members of the committee were asked to adjudicate and give recommendations concerning a number of records for the years 1989 and 1990. The following were accepted:

- Diomedea cauta* Shy Albatross singles off Shimoni, Kenya Aug–Sep 1989 and Sep 1990. Photographic evidence found acceptable.
- Pachyptila desolata* Antarctic Prion 1 off Shimoni, Kenya 27 Sep 1990. Photographic evidence found acceptable.
- Procellaria aequinoctialis* White-chinned Petrel 1 off Shimoni, Kenya 15 Sep 1990. Photographic evidence found acceptable.
- Bostrychia rara* Spot-breasted Ibis 2 Bwamba lowlands, Uganda 2–3 Mar 1990. Sonographic analysis of tape recordings found acceptable.
- Pteronetta hartlaubi* Hartlaub's Duck 1 Semliki River, Bwamba lowlands, Uganda 1 Mar 1990.
- Accipiter brevipes* Levant Sparrowhawk a juvenile at Ngulia, Kenya 3 Dec 1988. An immature or female at Ngulia 24 Nov–9 Dec 1989.
- Charadrius alexandrinus* Kentish Plover 1 Lake Kikorongo, Uganda 31 Dec 1989.
- Asio flammeus* Short-eared Owl 1 Lake Naivasha, Kenya 18 Jan 1988.
- Hirundo nigrita* White-throated Blue Swallow 2 pairs Bwamba lowlands, Uganda 28 Feb–1 Mar 1990.
- Phedina borbonica* Mascarene Martin 2 north of Malindi, Kenya 24 Aug 1989.
- Ortygospiza locustella* Locust Finch flock of 25 near Alupe, Busia district, Kenya 31 Aug 1990.
- Pyrenestes ostrinus* Black-bellied Seed-cracker 2 Mungatsi, Mumias district, Kenya 22 Sep 1990.

#### The following records were not accepted:

- Dryotriorchis spectabilis* Congo Serpent Eagle 1 Bwamba Forest, Uganda 4–5 Mar 1990.
- Pluvialis fulva* Lesser Golden Plover 1 Lake George, Uganda 12–14 Sep 1989.
- Calidris canutus* Knot 10+ Aruba Dam, Tsavo East National Park, Kenya 27 Aug 1990.
- Phalaropus fulicarius* Grey Phalarope 1 Lake Munyanyange, Uganda 15 Jan 1989.
- Sterna paradisea* Arctic Tern 2 Lake Baringo, Kenya 7 Jul 1989.

# First and last dates of some Palaearctic migrants in Kenya

species	last recorded	first recorded
<i>Merops apiaster</i>	21 Mar Nairobi	30 Aug Baringo
<i>Coracias garrulus</i>	20 Mar Mara GR	26 Oct Watamu
<i>Delichon urbica</i>	21 Mar Nairobi	19 Sep Bogoria
<i>Riparia riparia</i>	20 Mar Mara GR	6 Sep Baringo
<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	14 Mar Baringo	9 Oct Buffalo Springs
<i>Cercotrichas galactotes</i>	—	15 Nov Ngulia
<i>Irania gutturalis</i>	10 Mar Athi River	9 Nov Archer's Post
<i>Luscinia luscinia</i>	—	15 Nov Ngulia
<i>L. megarhynchos</i>	—	15 Nov Ngulia
<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>	20 Mar Mara GR	12 Oct Turkana
<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	"possibly overwintering Lockichoggio, Turkana"	
<i>O. isabellina</i>	12 Mar Baringo	16 Oct Bogoria
<i>O. pleschanka</i>	12 Mar Samburu	12 Oct Turkana
<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	15 Mar Kapsabet	10 Sep Mungatsi
<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>	5 Mar Naivasha	14 Dec Ngulia
<i>A. griseldis</i>	—	20 Nov Ngulia
<i>A. palustris</i>	—	15 Nov Ngulia
<i>A. schoenobaenus</i>	21 Mar Nairobi	22 Oct Naivasha
<i>A. scirpaceus</i>	—	22 Oct Naivasha
<i>Hippolais languida</i>	—	15 Nov Ngulia
<i>H. olivetorum</i>	—	15 Nov Ngulia
<i>H. pallida</i>	12 Mar Samburu	15 Nov Ngulia
<i>Locustella fluviatilis</i>	25 Mar Mtito Andei	15 Nov Ngulia
<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	28 Apr Nairobi	24 Sep Langata, Nairobi
<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	10 Mar Naro Moru	12 Oct Turkana
<i>S. borin</i>	—	16 Oct Bogoria
<i>S. communis</i>	18 Apr Nairobi	22 Oct Naivasha
<i>S. nisoria</i>	—	15 Nov Ngulia
<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	11 Apr Nairobi	12 Oct Turkana
<i>Anthus cervinus</i>	20 Mar Mara GR	4 Nov Mara GR
<i>A. trivialis</i>	—	12 Oct Turkana
<i>Motacilla flava</i>	20 Mar Mara GR	12 Oct Turkana
<i>M. cinerea</i>	—	19 Sep Kakamega
<i>Lanius collurio</i>	11 Apr Nairobi	4 Nov Mara GR
<i>L. isabellinus</i>	12 Mar Samburu	15 Nov Ngulia
<i>L. minor</i>	11 Apr Nairobi	29 Oct Buffalo Springs